PUDUKKOTTAI STATE

WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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GETTING A MOVE ON!

Three days ago some big news came over the wireless, 'big' because the neutral world has long been hoping to hear of a combined British offensive *somewhere,* because Russia has long been waiting for Britain to make a 'second front', and because our own men have been waiting to get at the enemy and practising and keeping fit in difficult conditions for months.........and now the day has come! It is a case of "Up and at'em!" in Cyrenaica, and "Smite the Hun, and the Italians will run!"

It is far too early in the day to make prognostications. All we remark now is that the Prime Minister's short speech in the Commons was full of confidence and pride in the Eighth Army and seemed to those who heard it to contain rather more elation than he put into words; that his message from His Majesty to the men of the Eighth Army, the Royal Air Force and the Mediterranean Fleet was inspiring and pregnant with the hopes of three quarters of the world; and that Singapore folk seem to have shown more excitement at the news than anywhere else in the Empire, on the grounds that an Imperial offensive on this scale is the one thing calculated to make the Japs think again.

Yes, it's big news, and, since the Germans are strong fighters and not apt to let things go by default, it is *NOT* "all over bar the shouting." But the whole conception, with its five months of careful, secret preparation for a mighty operation by all three arms, stirs our blood, just as it must stir the blood of those who have to carry it through, and we have never prayed "God speed!" as we do now for the soldiers, sailors and airmen of the Empire already in the thick of their glorious and hazardous adventure.—Ed.

AFGHANISTAN AND THE SAADABAD PACT.

German 'Race' theories, and Islam.

There is a radical conflict of conception about the bearing of Religion on the morality and ethics of man between the Muslim and the German. The Muslim conception is based on the tenets inculcated in the Quran, the Book of God, but the morality and ethics of GERMANY are conditioned to-day by race rather than religion. Darré, the Nazi Minister for Agriculture, has written a book entitled "The pig as the dividing issue between the Nordic and Semitic peoples." By the "Semitic" he means the Islamic peoples in the world to whatever race or country they may belong. The Quran declares the pig unclean and forbids it as food, and for this very reason the Nazis consider Islam as an inferior religion and the Muslims an inferior people, and the love of the pig and the eating of pork the Nazis consider as marking the superiority of the Nordic Nazis.

A natural antagonism.

2. Born of this basic antagonism between the religion of Islam and the Nazi faith, the goal of the Nazi has always been the enslavement of the Muslims. Everything Islamic is hateful to Hitler and his collaborators. According to Rosenberg, the Muslim world is a hostile and aggressive power, and he takes exception not only to the creed of Islam but even to the political aspirations of the Muslims. He condemns the very publication of the Quran in EGYPT and its distribution throughout the world, and considers it as preaching the strongest possible spirit of aggression, and he warns "the white race to be on its guard against the united hate of the coloured races, and the bastards led by the fanatical spirit of Islam" and according to him "Islam finds its enthusiastic adherents among the bastards, promising the Negroes their freedom through common fight against EUROPE".

Rosenberg and India.

3. Coming nearer home, Rosenberg says "The battles between Hindus and Muslims wlll be pitched up to wildest murder, the very moment the British leave INDIA. There can be no question but that INDIA needs

a master's hand. Both from the Nordic and German point of view, British ascendency over INDIA is to be supported, and we must reject those experiments which tend to transform INDIA into a Dominion."

4. Such has been the uncompromising attitude of Hitler and his satellites towards INDIA and the Arabic countries. And if to-day, embroiled as he is in the tentacles of a World war, Hitler engages Indian and Arabian propagandists and pays them munificently for spreading false propaganda through his Radio broadcasts from BERLIN in Urdu and Arabic, none but a fool will believe him in his assertions of good-will towards the Arab or the Indian, or the boastings of his friend Mussolini as the protector of Islam.

Islam's real friend.

5. As against the fond German notions of oriental slavery, and Mussolini's ambitions in EGYPT, GREAT BRITAIN is to-day the sole defender of the independence of that country, just as she has through the mouth of her Foreign Secretary declared her sympathy with the national aspirations of the Arabs in SYRIA, IRAQ and IRAN As to TURKEY, GREAT BRITAIN watches the European situation with intense care, and is ready to rush to her aid if and when Hitler turns his hordes against this heroic country.

The Saadabad Pact.

6. With a view to safeguarding the peace and integrity of the Muslim countries, what is known as the Middle Eastern (Saadabad) pact was entered into only a few years ago between the leading Muslim countries of the world. TURKEY, EGYPT, IRAQ, IRAN, and AFGHANISTAN are parties to that pact. If any of the contracting parties should be the victim of aggression, the others are bound by the terms of the pact to render all possible help to the aggrieved party. The basic principle of that pact was that what endangered one, endangered the others, and what benefited one benefited the rest.

Afghanistan.

7. Among the signatories to that pact is the kingdom of AFGHANISTAN. AFGHANISTAN has had a long and interesting history. The land of the Afghans has been successively a conglomeration of petty States, the centre of great empires ruled by foreigners, and a dismembered country furnishing provinces to three monarchies. After a varied and chequered career, it is now a distinct political entity ruled by an independent native

sovereign, the Amir. As a country from which the Khyber pass gives admission to INDIA, AFGHANISTAN has always possessed a strategic importance in eastern affairs.

8. The most important section of the people of AFGHANISTAN are the Duranis; almost equally powerful are the Ghilzais who claim to be of Turkish origin; the balance of the population consists of Hazaras, Tajiks, Uzbeks, Kafirs and others who are more or less subject races. But almost all these varying races speak the same common language—Pushtu—and follow the same code of law. As to religion AFGHANISTAN is one of the strongholds of Islam and most of its inhabitants belong to the Sunni sect.

9. It is divided into 5 Provinces, each with a Governor at its head, and the law is that of Islam. The Government was an absolute monarchy till 1922, when a Legislative and State Assembly were organised, with a cabinet under the presidency of the King or Amir by Amir Amanullah Khan. There is no regular budget, but the public revenue is about a crore of rupees for a population of about 6,000,000, GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, IRAN, RUSSIA and TURKEY have legations at KABUL.

10. The cultural and material development of the country went on apace under the aegis of King Amanullah Khan, and his successor King Nadir Shah gave still further impetus to these developments. Education on western lines is being vigorously promoted—thanks to the keen interest evinced by the late King Nadir Shah. To-day, there are throughout AFGHANISTAN primary, intermediate and High Schools, and at KABUL a University with faculties of medicine, law, engineering, science and arts, manned by both Afghan and foreign professors, the latter being drawn from TURKEY, the U. S. A., GREAT BRITAIN, GERMANY, FRANCE and INDIA. Afghan students are sent abroad in large numbers, many of them to TURKEY. Great importance is attached to improved agricultural technique, and modern methods of spinning and weaving and carpet-making. Transport facilities, in spite of the natural obstacles in a mountainous country like AFGHANISTAN, are being daily improved.

11. AFGHANISTAN's modernising activities extend also to the military field. There is a Turkish Military Mission in KABUL and Turkish Military Officers assist in the Afghan Military College. No wonder therefore that AFGHANISTAN entered the Middle-Eastern (Saadabad) pact.

Egypt and Turkey. 12. Of the other signatories to this pact, EGYPT and TURKEY form the major parties. When Hitler declared War in EUROPE and GREAT BRITAIN entered into an alliance to put down Hitlerism, EGYPT ranged herself on the side of GREAT BRITAIN. Even when threatened with dire disasters last year, EGYPT remained firm and unshaken in her fidelity to the allies. The position of TURKEY was more difficult, situated as she is in the main theatre of the present war, EUROPE. In fact, great credit must be given to the able statesmanship and diplomacy of her leaders who have managed to continue friendly relations with GREAT BRITAIN without openly antagonising GERMANY. In spite of her dangerous situation and in spite of the intrigues of the best brains of GERMANY, TURKEY has steered clear of Nazi machinations.

Palestine and Syria. 13. PALESTINE, in spite of the troubles and tribulations she has suffered by reason of the Jewish craze for colonising PALESTINE and making PALESTINE their 'National Home', has placed her entire reliance on the good faith of the British and stuck fast to the allies and their cause. SYRIA, though a mandatory of FRANCE, quietly submitted to British influence when they intervened to check the rising tide of German influence and power.

Iraq and Iran. 14. In IRAQ, when the fifth columnists raised the standard of revolt under the leadership of the ambitious and misguided Rashid Ali, BRITAIN intervened and established perfect peace and order in the realm, and effectively checked the evil designs of Hitler and his hirelings. It was only in IRAN that BRITAIN and RUSSIA had any need to make a show of arms, but the ex-Shah saw the unwisdom of his policy and quietly vacated his throne to give place to his son the present Shah, under whose aegis IRAN is entering upon a new era of political, industrial and cultural advancement.

—and back to Afghanistan. 15. It will now be comprehensible that AFGHANISTAN adopted the same policy as the major parties to the Middle Eastern Pact, and has decided to dispense with the German embassy at KABUL. Her statesmen can remember what took place in AFGHANISTAN during the last Great War. Immediately on the declaration of War in 1914, the then Amir Habibullah Khan declared his intention of

abiding by his agreement with the British Government and maintaining the neutrality of his country, in spite of the fact that TURKEY, the chief Islamic power, whose then ruler was regarded throughout the Muslim world as the Caliph or representative of God on earth, had openly joined hands with GERMANY and declared war against GREAT BRITAIN. In spite of the Amir's open choice, the Kaisar did not give up hope, and contrived to send a German mission to KABUL. But on arriving in KABUL, the Mission were speedily disillusioned. They found themselves treated more as State prisoners than as guests, and becoming apprehensive of the intentions of Amir Habibullah Khan, they decided to leave the country in haste, only to fall into the hands of RUSSIA and be treated as prisoners of war. After the close of the war, Amanullah rose to power and was recognised by the nobles and the people as King. A slight misunderstanding led to a declaration of war on AFGHANISTAN by GREAT BRITAIN, but the appearance of the first aeroplane over KABUL induced an immediate overture for peace and a treaty was signed on 8—8—1919 at RAWALPINDI. This was followed by the treaty of MUSSORIE on the 22nd of November 1922 by which the two Governments agreed to respect one another's independence in domestic and foreign affairs.

16. Ever since, the mutual relations between INDIA and AFGHANISTAN have been growing more and more friendly, and to-day AFGHANISTAN has her Legation in LONDON and her consular officers at DELHI, CALCUTTA, KARACHI and BOMBAY. The Afghan Government have the privilege of importing through INDIA, free of duty, arms and munitions of war, and all restrictions on the export of goods from AFGHANISTAN to British territory have been removed, and a convention to deal with posts and telegraphs is under contemplation.

Under king Amanullah the country was thrown open to western civilisation. Afghan legations were established in MOSCOW, BERLIN, PARIS, ROME, TEHERAN, ANKARA and LONDON, and foreign legations from these countries at KABUL did much to overcome ignorant prejudices and make the Afghan people more familier with the life of the outside world. The improvement of roads, the extension of Posts and Telegraphs, and the installation of a wireless station at KABUL were important factors in modernising AFGHANISTAN, and this policy was further extended and improved under Nadir Shah, and after him by his son and successor. In fine AFGHANISTAN has definitely thrown off her isolationist character, and at the same time developed a feeling of friendship with British INDIA,

and through British INDIA, with GREAT BRITAIN. The present war has served to reinforce that sentiment so strongly, indeed, that as we have already said, the Afghan Government recently bade good-bye to the German legation at KABUL, and secured them, safe passage through INDIA back to GERMANY.

Such an obvious choice as this step denotes is, I maintain, only the natural and inevitable result of the conflict between the cultural and religious principles of Muslim AFGHANISTAN and those of Hitlerite GERMANY. The same is a fair deduction from the Middle-Eastern pact, and the uniformly definite reliance placed by all the Muslim countries of the world on the faith and goodwill of GREAT BRITAIN and her allies. With such trust and confidence in the allies as is displayed by a great religious community, forming no less than one-fourth of the population of the whole world, the cause of the Allies is already on assured and safe ground, and God willing victory shall be ours at no distant date.

APPENDIX.

DEVELOPMENT OF ANGLO-IRAQI RELATIONS. RASHID ALI'S SHORT-LIVED INSURRECTION. IRAQ'S FRIENDSHIP WITH NEIGHBOUR STATES.

by

Sir Ronald Storrs.

Nuri Said Pasha has become for the fourth time Prime Minister, and for the seventh time Minister for Defence of Iraq. This is more than news for Iraq. It is an event for the Middle East.

Iraq was one of the Arab countries freed by Britain from Ottoman domination during the last war. There followed a period of misunderstanding, culminating in disorder. Then Emir Feisal, conqueror with Lawrence of Damascus, became King, and in 1930 the Anglo-Iraqi Alliance was signed in Baghdad recognising the complete freedom, equality and independence of Iraq. If either party were involved in war, the other should come to its assistance. His Britannic Majesty was guaranteed the permanent maintenance in all circumstances of essential communications, with the right therefore of establishing air bases at Baghdad, and west of the Euphrates at Habbaniya.

Iraq's relations with her neighbours are now satisfactory. The Ruler of Transjordan, Emir Abdulla, is a brother of the late King Feisal. The exchange in Syria of Vichy for Free France has relieved apprehensions from that quarter. With King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia a treaty of " Arab brotherhood " was signed in 1936, and an agreement with Iran over the Shatt–al–Arab, the important river outlet to the Persian Gulf, was reached in 1937. Four days later was signed the Saadabad or Four-Power Middle Eastern Pact between Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan, by which the four agreed to consult on matters affecting their common interests and abstain from aggression.

But Iraq suffered a sad blow when the statesmanlike King Feisal died in 1933. His son did not long survive him, and his grandson, King Feisal II, was a child of six whose powers were exercised by a Regent, Emir Abdulla. New to constitutional rule and unguided, some leading Iraqis began to exhibit signs of democratic growing pains in which the outs-of-office became more and more discontented, and therefore offered an increasingly fertile soil for Nazi propaganda.

When war broke out in September 1939, Iraq broke off relations with Germany, whose innumerable agents consequently moved on to Iran. But when Italy came into the war relations were not broken off, and the Italian Legation remained as the centre of propaganda. British restraint, in not insisting as an ally upon their expulsion, was interpreted by certain Iraqis as weakness, and the Baghdad press sank deeper and deeper under Axis influence.

In April, a local Quisling, Sayyid Rashid Ali Gailani, supported by four corrupt and ambitious Colonels, who followed the cinema fashion of blackguards in shirts of various colours, by giving themselves the opera bouffe title of the " Golden Square ", expelled the lawful Cabinet, deposed the Regent, and seized power. Gailani protested his loyalty to the British alliance, but soon treacherously attacked his ally's aerodrome at Habbaniya. British troops speedily put down the insurrection, which had a very bad press in Arab and neighbouring countries and the agitators fled the country, deserting their ignorant, and sometimes unwilling accomplices. The little King and the Regent returned to Baghdad, where, after an interim Government of some months, General Nuri Said Pasha, who signed the original Anglo-Iraqi Treaty, has now been recalled as Prime Minister. Though no longer young, he is a lively personality, and he is said to have rancorous opponents.

The unexpected delay in the German capture of Crete, and their consequent failure to support their pawn Gailani, doubtless hastened his humiliating débacle, and eliminated this first attempt to prepare a stab in the back of Turkey, should she later resist Nazi pressure. The river Tigris and the Baghdad railway are of such importance to Turkey for the conveyance of

assistance, whether materials or men, in the event of an attack from the Mediterranean that they may almost be called the Burma Road into Western Asia. They also afford an important transit to the East, for Turkey has exports of cotton-seed, sesame, linseed and barley—all normally available for a peaceful Japan.

The Iraq pipelines, conveying oil to Tripoli in Syria and Haifa in Palestine, are also major interests in the safety of the Eastern Mediterranean and the general prosperity of the Near East. The Nazi objective is doubtless to include the destruction or capture of these oil-fields, and use rail and river as a channel for an eastern invasion, the cutting of the Suez Canal having been originally (optimistically) left to the junior Axis partner.

The best answer to these menaces is the rapid strengthening of British power, and the Saadabad Pact, now further consolidated by Afghanistan's expulsion of Fascist and Nazi agents. These four countries, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan and Turkey, stand now firm and united as the real Golden Square of the Near East.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

14—11—41 to 20—11—41.

The Second British offensive in Libya.—The hour has struck; the long-expected British offensive has been resumed in North AFRICA for which preparations had been in the making, awaiting the advent of the cold weather. At the first streak of day on Nov. 18 the British attack began under Sir Alan Cunningham, assisted by his brother Sir Andrew Cunningham at sea and Air Vice-Marshal Coningham in the air. The enemy has now to face a British force, composed of NEW ZEALAND, South African and Indian forces with a predominant British element.

RUSSIA's appeal for a second front has thus been answered.

The second offensive is no doubt going to prove a tougher trial of strength than the first. The enemy has been strengthened by the German African Corps, but the Royal Air Force in this theatre has an established superiority. Both sides have been arming and reinforcing for weeks.

British forces advancing from SOLLUM to JARABUB have penetrated to a depth of 50 miles into CYRENAICA. The Navy is bombarding HALFAYA.

The Russo-German War.—Though winter has only just set in, we are told that the toll of German lives taken by exposure, sickness and frost-bite is already heavy. German radios are extraordinarily reticent about the progress of events. The Germans are said to be digging themselves in for winter, and the Russians to have promised to dig them out soon and give them a decent burial. A series of Soviet successes are reported from the Arctic Sea to the south front, though of a local character, and it looks as if the situation is generally improving with the exception of the CRIMEA.

In the **North**, the Finnish claim to have cut the MURMANSK Railway south of SOROK awaits confirmation; such claims they have put forward too often in the past to be certain. The enemy's attempt, pursued in vain, during the last 5 months to occupy RYBACHI at the approaches to MURMANSK remains unfulfilled, as the place is still in Russian hands. Here British aircraft are operating, and the British Bomber Command is successfully intercepting supplies to Nazi troops in North RUSSIA *via* the Norwegian coast. In this sector Soviet troops have made an appreciable advance in the KARELIAN Peninsula.

In the **Leningrad** sector, the enemy has cut the LINENGRAD-VOLOGDA Railway, but his claim to have captured TIKVIN, the sole remaining link for LENINGRAD with the rest of RUSSIA is denied. Here the Germans admit they are on the defensive.

Moscow.—Life is normal in MOSCOW and the situation round it continues to be fluid, so that, all anticipations of future developments should be made with every caution. Fierce fighting flares up now and again in the different sub-sectors—particularly at the two ends of the semi-circle of investment—at KALININ, in the north, where the struggle has become intense again and at TULA in the south, an important industrial centre, the possession of which would no doubt give Hitler a 'prestige success'.

In the region between the DONETZ and the DON German opportunism may be said to be replacing the German *blitz*. Here the German pressure has increased, in order presumably to test the strength of Timoshenko's new line. But it is dangerous to presume: it may also be a feint to draw away Russian armies from around MOSCOW.

It should be presumed that KERCH has been captured. The Germans are reported to be preparing to jump the straits, and even to have already started bombing TAMANSKAYA, AUAPA, and TUAPSE on the other, that is, the CAUCASUS side.

The Neutrality Act.—The Neutrality Act has been amended and the revised enactment has received Presidential consent. The new measure amounts to a virtual scrapping of the original Act, it restores the freedom of the seas which stood forfeited by the earlier legislation. It means that hereafter AMERICA will not only produce war materials, but carry them in her own armed ships and deliver them at Allied ports. It means the U.S. will extend her air and naval patrols, she will convoy and she will even establish her own delivery bases on the BRITISH ISLES. She will operate in the Mediterranean and deliver her goods in the MIDDLE EAST herself. Needless to say it changes the American outlook towards the war completely.

In the words of the *Daily Mail* it sets the 'halter' round Hitler. Hitler in reply should attack American Shipping and in further answer AMERICA will shoot.

At one stage, during the passage of the amendment through the Legislature it looked as if the voting would prove adverse, and it redounds to the wisdom of President Roosevelt that he averted it by sending a eleventh-hour note to the House of Representatives, pointing out how the Legislature's failure to accept the amendment, though it was not going in any way to divert the course of the European war, would dishearten BRITAIN, CHINA and RUSSIA who were fighting Freedom's Battle, and gladden the hearts of the enemies who would proclaim that the UNITED STATES were really disunited. Domestically it would encourage strikes.

The note had the desired effect. By 212 votes to 191, the House of Representatives passed the Bill on November 13, the narrow majority being the result, not of any American indifference, but of party manoeuvring and the complications arising from the Labour disaffection.

The Labour Trouble.—Yes, The labour trouble which a few weeks ago President Roosevelt sought to avert by appealing to Mr. Lewis has reared its ugly head again. The 'captive' coal mines have struck and 24 'commercial' coal mines have also downed tools in sympathy.

Legislation to put down strikes is under consideration, and the President will resort to military interference if necessary: he will see it through. 50,000 troops are said to be in readiness.

C. I. O.—Simultaneously comes the news of a resolution passed almost unanimously by the National Convention of the Congress of Industrial Organisations, consisting mostly of Mine Workers and Construction Workers, giving all-out support to the amendment to the Neutrality Act and to Roosevelt's policy of aid to the Allies. The resolution says that 'the efforts of any such as Col. Lindbergh to disunite the American people on such un-American issues as anti-semitism must be ferreted out and exposed as Hitler's Fifth Column.'

U. S. has decided to withdraw all her marines—some 750 of them, from SHANGHAI, as well as from TIENTSIN and PEIPING, not in order to placate JAPAN, but as the result of what has been called 'an evolutionary process.' The marines having served their original purpose and being no longer required are being evacuated. They will return if CHINA should want them again.

Odenwald.—On November 6 a U. S. cruiser sighting a trading vessel in South Atlantic under suspicious circumstances called on her to 'heave to,' whereupon the signal came that she was sinking. On approach she was found to be damaging herself in an attempt to scuttle herself. This being prevented in time she was towed to harbour. She will be confiscated and soon made sea-worthy for U. S. purposes. She has since been identified as the German motorship *Odenwald* of 5,098 tons, which left YOKOHAMA for BORDEAUX *via* CAPE HORN two months ago with a cargo of rubber and other war materials. She was caught sailing under false colours, flying the U. S. flag, under the false name *Willmotó* of PHILADELPHIA. To such desperate straits is the enemy driven for supplies.

Retrogression to Stone Age.—It may be recalled how some time ago Latin American States, headed by MEXICO, sent a note to BERLIN, under the Hague Convention, in protest against the inhuman outrage of shooting hostages in reprisal. It is now learnt that BERLIN has asked MEXICO for the withdrawal of the note. MEXICO threatens to dismiss the German minister in MEXICO, in reply, characterising German brutality as a 'retrogression in ethics to the Stone Age'.

The Ark Royal.—It is sad to relate the loss of the *Ark Royal*, which befell on November 13, when she sank beneath the waves of the Mediterranean off GIBRALTAR, torpedoed by a lone lurking thief of a U-boat. There was no regular engagement, though the *Ark Royal* delivered depth charges to destroy the unseen dastardly foe. She sank in tow 12 hours after the hit. Of the 1,600 officers and men she carried, only 18 are missing, with but a single casualty.

Launched in April 1937, and sunk more than once by Dr. Goebbels over his radio, *Ark Royal's* existence was crowded with glory. Fitted to carry 60 to 70 aircraft she accounted during her short carrier for more than a hundred enemy aircraft. German as well as Italian. In the early days of the war she hunted U-boats in home-waters. A few months later she took part in the chase of the *Graf Spee*, intercepting her supply ships. In March 1940 she was operating in the Mediterranean; in April she bravely entered NARVIK. Back in the Mediterranean in November 1940 she was chasing Italian warships of the Littorio class In February 1941 she bombarded *Genoa*, *Leghorn* and *Pisa*; in May she hunted *Bismarck* to death.

LEEDS has decided to subscribe for another *Ark Royal*. Her loss will be avenged.

The warships week.—Inaugurated in BRITAIN in the first week of this month this is proving a great success. 20 British towns have already joined, of which three DEWSBURY, SHERBORNE and HOYLAND have over-subscribed. LIVERPOOL, in addition to paying the cost of a new *Ark Royal* will adopt the '*Prince of Wales*' now under construction. LIVERPOOL's total target aimed at is £ 10,000,000.

Opening the week at LIVERPOOL, Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty reminded his audience of the Herculean task that has devolved upon the British Navy in this war. It had now taken over the duties carried out by 5 navies in the last war. In addition to blockading the enemy and keeping supplies open to BRITAIN, she was now engaged in escorting materials to RUSSIA, and frustrating enemy's infiltration across the Mediterranean—all this, in spite of a swarm of U-boats, surface-raiders and long-range aircraft which the enemy could now muster along the Atlantic and Mediterranean seaboards.

Japan.—While Mr. Kurusu has sped across the Pacific, and is at the moment conferring with Mr. Cordell Hull to decide the issue of 'Peace or War' for JAPAN, the Japanese Government is

practically sabotaging his endeavours by trebling her military budget and delivering fire-eating speeches. In these tirades the Premier General Togo and the Foreign Minister Mr. Togo and Mr. Shimada former Japanese Minister for Agriculture have all joined, but the last speaker was the worst; he moved the resolution, which the Japanese House of Representatives docilely has approved, that 'the fundamental motivating force' behind the European war was the U. S.' desire for 'world hegemony' and that there was no chance for the Japanese to rise without 'fighting this battle through.'

It is all a bluff but AMERICA will not be bluffed. The Japanese Prime Minister says that CHINA had become weak, and the time had come to crush her out of existence, but AMERICA knows, and all the world knows, that JAPAN is impotent after the 4 years' Chinese incident, and she cannot cut the BURMA road so easily as she threatens. As the *Economist* wisely points out, the most urgent problem in the FAR-EAST is CHINA, Chinese resistance, which the A. B. C. D. front must take good care to strengthen in order to frustrate JAPAN. Senator Claude Pepper comes to the same conclusion, though for other reasons. 'If the Japanese want peace,' he says 'let them stop aggression and get out of CHINA. AMERICA will not acquiesce in any so called New Order built on the bones and washed in the blood of innocent victims.'

The New Order.—The New Order is mercilessly at work. Here are some statistics of the slaughter of the innocents called 'hostages'—FRANCE—250 (in 2 weeks); POLAND—82,000; CZECHO-SLOVAKIA—352 (up to November); GREECE—15,000 in 6 villages only; YUGO-SLAVIA—5,000 (in the last 3 months) and SERBS—200,000 (at the rate of 50 hostages for every German dead).

Hitler has demanded 1,000,000 workers from FRANCE, of which number Pétain and Darlan are said to have obligingly promised to find half the number, and the recruitment is on the lines of the press gang. A working class district is raided, and all available technicians and workmen are rounded up, charged with 'communism,' threatened with being classed as 'hostages' unless they 'volunteer.' Their place of work—that is, GERMANY, is disclosed only after they have registered. Prisoners of war are also promised their 'freedom' if they 'volunteer,' but they soon find that their change is only from the prison-camp to the labour-camp.

GERMANY has also requisitioned one million extra tons of potatoes, the whole of the apple-harvest of the year, together with the whole sugar-beet crop from FRANCE in the name of 'better distribution' under the new economic order.

The Heydrich Summary Court has started the week with four more death-sentences—this time an engineer, a house builder, a hair-dresser and a shoe-maker—all for 'high treason.'

Meanwhile Von Papen is asking neutral countries to join the New Order, under threat of being forced into it if they do not voluntarily walk into the spider's parlour.

Miscellaneous.—

1. A Canadian force has reached HONGKONG to strengthen the Empire forces. In making the announcement, Mr. Mackenzie King, Canadian Premier said, "Defence against aggression, actual or threatened, in any part of the world is to-day part of the defence of every country which still enjoys freedom."

2. A new army—called the 8th Army has been formed in the Western Desert—proof of the growing strength in the MIDDLE-EAST.

3. A new British Airways service has been inaugurated between CAIRO and TEHERAN. It will perform the journey from CAIRO to BAGHDAD in 4 hours, and from BAGHDAD to TEHERAN within 3 hours.

4. Captain Oliver Lyttelton has met British delegates from ADEN, CYPRUS, East AFRICA, EGYPT, LEBANON, MALTA, PALESTINE, the SUDAN, SYRIA, TRANSJORDAN and TURKEY to concert measures to secure maximum supplies of food and war materials with minimum shipping.

5. General (hereafter Field-Marshal) Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff will succeed Sir Roger Lumley as Governor of BOMBAY, when the latter relinquishes his office next year. The appointment recognises the growing military importance of INDIA and BOMBAY in particular, and shows the wisdom of appointing a military chief to civil administration as the best precaution that could be taken in these perilous times.

Sir John Dill will be succeeded in the war office by General Sir Alan Brooke, known in the army as 'the Wizard' and recognised as an expert in army mechanisation.

BRITISH and RUSSIAN Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
10—11—41. (Monday.)				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
DAY :—				
	A large cargo-liner in a NORWEGIAN Fjord.	Hit directly.		
NIGHT :—				
	No information available.			
	ITALY.			
	The Naval base at NAPLES.			
	The floating dock, sea-plane base and industrial buildings at BRINDISI.	Damaged.		
	SICILY.			
	The aerodrome at CATANIA.			
	LIBYA.			
	A German supply depot at BENGHAZI.	Fires stated.		
	Store dumps at EL GAZALA.			
	Targets at EL TMIMI and DERNA.			
	ABYSSINIA.			
	Enemy trenches at SENA.			
	Enemy troops at AMBAZZO.		No loss.	
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battle field.		2 planes.	4 planes.
11—11—41. (Tuesday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
DAY :—				
	A small supply ship off the DUTCH coast.	Sunk.		
	Railway lines, Hangars, Aerodromes, Factories and Machinegun Posts in occupied FRANCE.		4 fighters.	
NIGHT :—				
	No information available.			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
11—11—41. (Tuesday)—*cont.*				
	SICILY.			
	The aerodrome and aircraft on the ground at GELA.	2 planes destroyed ; Many damaged.		
	LIBYA.			
	Store dumps and motor transport workshops at DERNA.	Fires and explosions started.		
	Ordnance stores, workshops and military buildings at BERKA.			
	Targets at WADI SCHWEMRA.			
	Transport and stores at EL GAZALA.			
	Traffic on the JDABIA-EL AGHEILA road.	Many vehicles destroyed.	4 planes.	
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the entire Front.		5 planes.	36 planes.
	Communications behind the German army.			
12—11—41. (Wednesday.)				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	No information available.			
	ITALY.			
	Railway lines and marshalling yards at NAPLES.	Large fires started.		
	SICILY.			
	A Sea-plane base and a railway station at SYRACUSE.	Big fires started.		
	LIBYA.			
	Marshalling yards and stores at BENGHAZI.	Search-lights extinguished.		
	Motor transport and stores at DERNA.			
	The hangars, the aerodrome and workshops at TRIPOLI.			
	ABYSSINIA.			
	Enemy positions at FEROABER ...	A gun post silenced.		

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
12—11—41.	**(Wednesday)**—*cont.*			
	(By Russian planes.)			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole Front.		5 planes.	20 planes.
13—11—41.	**(Thursday.)**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	No information about day and night operations.			
	LIBYA.			
	Objectives at BENGHAZI, DERNA and BARDIA.			
	Aerodromes at MARTUBA and BARCE.			
	Aerodrome and aircraft on the aerodrome at BENINA.	Many planes on the ground damaged.		
	Barracks and dispersed aircraft on the ground at the BERKA aerodrome.			
	ABYSSINIA.			
	Enemy positions north-west of AZOZO aerodrome, **KULKABER** and **KOLA-DIBA.**			
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole Front.		16 planes.	38 planes.
	Military objectives at KONIGSBURG and RIGA.	Fires started.		
14—11—41.	**(Friday.)**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
DAY :—				
	Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH-CHANNEL and Northern FRANCE.			
	Gun positions and aircraft on the ground at an aerodrome in Northern FRANCE.			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
14—11—41.	**(Friday)**—*cont.*			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE—*cont.*			
NIGHT :—				
	No information available.			
	LIBYA.			
	The landing ground at GAMBUT ...	Fires started.	1 plane.	2 planes.
	(By Russian planes)			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole Front.		10 planes.	52 planes.
15—11—41.	**(Saturday).**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
DAY :—				
	Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE. **A factory** near DUNKIRK. **Another factory** near BERCK. **Oil tanks** in CHERBOURG Peninsula. **A goods train, enemy troops and gun positions** in Northern FRANCE.		2 fighters.	
NIGHT :—				
	The naval base at EMDEN. **Other ports** in North-west GERMANY. **The docks** at BOULOGNE ... **Laying mines** in enemy waters ...	Damaged.	84 planes.	
	SICILY.			
	Various targets in the South-eastern part of the Island. **A train** at NOTO ...		3 planes.	
	LIBYA.			
	Aerodromes at EL GAZALA and TMIMI.	Many aircraft on the ground destroyed.		
	Air combats over LIBYA ...			2 fighters.
	The aerodrome at DERNA ...	Fires and explosions started.		

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
15—11—41.	**(Saturday)**—*cont.*			
	LIBYA—*cont.*			
	Store dumps at BARDIA.			
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.			
	ABYSSINIA.			
	Enemy positions and troops in the GONDAR region.			
	(By Russian planes.)			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats, aircraft on the aerodromes, infantry and artillery along the whole front.		5 planes.	12 planes.
16—11—41.	**(Sunday.)**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	No information available about day and night operations.			
	LIBYA.			
	DAY :—			
	The landing ground at EL GAZALA.	Enemy planes set on fire.		
	The aerodrome at DERNA ...			2 planes.
	NIGHT :—			
	The landing grounds at TMIMI and EL GAZALA.			
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.			
	(By Russian planes.)			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats, aircraft on the aerodromes, Infantry and Artillery along the whole front.	...	6 planes.	21 planes.
	Enemy communications behind the German army.			

ENEMY Air Raids over BRITAIN, BRITISH Territories and RUSSIA.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Enemy aircraft losses.	British and Russian air losses.
11—11—41. (Tuesday).				
	BRITAIN.			
	No information available.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.		4 planes.	
	Kerch.			
12—11—41. (Wednesday).				
	BRITAIN.			
DAY :—				
	A point in North-east ENGLAND	A few injured ; slight damage.		
NIGHT :—				
	One place in South-west ENGLAND.	No damage.		
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.		5 planes.	
13—11—41. (Thursday).				
	BRITAIN.			
DAY :—				
	ENGLISH CHANNEL.		1 plane.	
NIGHT :—				
	South-west ENGLAND.	Slight damage and a few casualites.		
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.		2 planes.	
	Kerch and **Sebastopol** communications behind the RUSSIAN Army.			
14—11—41. (Friday).				
	BRITAIN.			
NIGHT :—				
	A town in North-east SCOTLAND.	No casualties.		
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.			
	Kerch and **Sebastopol.**			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Enemy aircraft losses.	British and Russian air losses.
15—11—41. (Saturday).	**BRITAIN.**			
MORNING :—				
	East coast of ENGLAND.		1 bomber.	
NIGHT :—				
	Widely separated **towns** on the coast of ENGLAND and SCOTLAND.	Slight damage but no casualties.		
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.		5 planes.	
	Kerch.			
16—11—41. (Sunday).	**BRITAIN.**			
DAY :—				
	East coast of ENGLAND.		2 bombers.	
NIGHT :—				
	No information available about night operations.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.		11 planes.	
17—11—41. (Monday).	**BRITAIN.**			
NIGHT :—				
	Coastal areas of East, West and South-west ENGLAND.	Houses damaged ; no one seriously injured.		
	Two places in East ANGLIA.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.			
	Communications behind the Russian lines.			

"TABLE OF BRITISH BOMB RAIDS ON GERMANY.

COLOGNE STILL "TOPS THE LIST".

Figures of British bomb raids on Germany show that Cologne still tops the bomb table.

TOWN.	TOTAL RAIDS.	VERY HEAVY.	HEAVY.
Cologne	28	8	17
Berlin	19	5	13
Bremen	20	6	11
Kiel	15	3	11
Frankfurt	13	5	8
Mannheim	12	6	5
Dusseldorf	14	1	11
Hamburg	11	7	3
Duisberg	11	4	6
Emden	10	3	1
Munster	7	3	3
Hanover	9	0	8
Stettin	5	3	2
Karlsruche	6	1	5
Wilhelmshaven	9	1	3
Aachen	5	1	3
Essen	4	4	0
Osnabruck	4	1	2
Oldenburg	3	0	2
Magdeburg	3	0	3
Bielfeld	3	0	2
Dortmund	2	1	1
Bremerhaven	3	0	1
Cuxhaven	2	0	2
Hamm	2	0	2
Krefeld	2	0	2
Munchen Gladbach	2	0	2
Stuttgart	2	0	1
Rheydt	2	0	1
Huis	1	1	0
Kassel	1	1	0
Vegesack	1	0	1
Brunswick	1	0	1
Leuna	1	0	1
Sylt	1	0	1
Rheine	1	0	0
Halle	1	0	0
Rostock	1	0	0
Total	237	65	135

SIDE LIGHTS.

ATLANTIC TIDE TURNS Nothing, in the rather more cheering news in the papers these days, is so important as the progress of the Battle of the Atlantic.

"We can only win the present war by breaking British Sea-power" wrote Goebbels' *Das Reich* on September 14. That is why the Battle of the Atlantic is the greatest and most decisive in the war."

Let us see briefly how the fight, which has raged without a pause throughout the summer months, has turned out for those who set such enormous store by it. We need not go into the vast advantages held by the Germans in the Atlantic battle in this war as compared with the last. It is enough to say that it was not only the Germans but a large part of the world which thought when FRANCE fell, and the whole European coast from the North Cape to LISBON, and thence southwards to west African DAKAR became the potential base of a great submarine fleet, that ENGLAND was down and out—from starvation in food and munitions.

The test of this, they thought, will be soon seen. If the Germans can cut off supplies, or even if they can reduce them below the level of the maintenance of BRITAIN'S war effort, the Battle is theirs, and the War is theirs. Well, perhaps that was the test, but the fact remains that instead of *increasingly* interfering with BRITAIN'S supplies, the effect of Hitler's piratical efforts has become *progressively less and less*. There has been no diminution in the German efforts, they are even being intensified, but the Germans have met with a *defeat*, and the fact that British and Allied mercantile marine losses in the third quarter of this year were *only one-third* of those in the second quarter is definite enough proof of that defeat.

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HOW IT WAS DONE There is something in the appearance, as well as in the speeches of the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. A. V. Alexander, which reflects the means by which the Royal Navy have achieved and are maintaining this victory—sheer, unconquerable determination throughout a year of inadequate forces, and heavily-adverse odds after the fall of FRANCE and the loss of most of their Navy. In short both the Admiralty's policy and the Navy's execution of it have been *right*, and rightly the occasion for national pride and the world's admiration.

There have also been other factors :—

(i) The convoy system. This policy has been fully justified. During the summer there has been a large increase in escort vessels, of

which the corvettes are the leading examples. While these were still far too few, America's transfer of 50 over-age destroyers were vitally useful in filling the gap.

(ii) Patrolling aircraft. The tremendous value of this thankless task undertaken by the R. A. F. and Coastal Command has been sufficiently obvious. The newest development in aero-marine warfare invented by these dauntless people is the catapulting of fighter-planes from the convoys themselves, to fight off the Focker-Wulf bombers within flying-range of BRITAIN, and the method has been highly efficacious.

(iii) Not only have the Home experts invented a 'beautiful' new high-power bomb; they have also invented a beautiful new depth-charge, which now makes a submarine's 'crash-dive' a very doubtful means of escape.

(iv) Thanks again to a great system of wide air-patrols, GERMANY's auxiliary offensive in the shape of surface raiders, has been spotted, hunted, destroyed or imprisoned. The system found the *Bismarck* and hunted her till she was sunk; the system drove another battle cruiser back to port in the Baltic; the system has immobilised for five months the *Scharnhorst* and the *Gneisenau* in BREST, and the *Prinz Eugen* in LA PALLICE.

(v) The extension of the American naval patrols, and their occupation of ICELAND have been of the utmost value. Large areas of the ocean are no longer our Navy's pigeon, while the U. S. A. patrol vessels provide precisely what we were ourselves short of.

(vi) American shipbuilding alone is now proceeding at tho rate of 6,000,000 tons a year. Neither BRITAIN alone, nor the Allies as a whole, are losing tonnage at *that* rate! Is it any wonder that the German Radio itself supplies on October 30th a commentary on the Goebbels quotation quoted in our first paragraph above?

According to this, the Battle of the Atlantic is now "an indescribable hell", while attacks on our convoys are also "attacks straight into hell."

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HITLER'S CRISIS. There are some odd points about Hitler's Beer-Cellar speech. The official text of an oration on November 8 was not issued until November 10, nor was the speech itself broadcast! Goebbels has allowed official commentaries, but there are such obvious divergences in these, as to suggest that there has been some pretty furious 'editing' of the orginal speech. Issued from "the Fuehrer's Headquarters"

most of the speech was an attempt to answer Roosevelt's denunciation of increasingly aggressive and anti-religious German plans. And for fear that the President's outspokenness might increase Hitler's growing difficulties in 'consolidating' occupied countries, the German Press was ordered to spout all the scurrility of which it is capable to the address of Mr. Roosevelt. But the main deduction to be made from the speech was the *stupidity* of representing that the campaign in RUSSIA was virtually concluded.

This merely shows the pressing necessity felt by Hitler for an immediate and tremendous prestige success. It is necessary in order to '*kushi karo*' his own people; it is even more necessary for his diplomatic plans, such as the staging of a "European Conference", and a "New Order" declaration.

Actually the position is that Hitler is driving his main armies to the point of exhaustion, and even though the Russians may in some sectors be hard pressed, and generally gravely weakened, that point of exhaustion of the German armies may become very dangerous. In fact two exhausted armed powers are locked in a death-grapple, and to judge by well-informed neutrals, the odds are slowly turning against the attackers. No wonder the Munich speech is not acccounted one of the Fuehrer's best!

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LOSING GRASP. I think this fairly describes what the Germans are doing—and not only in the field against the Russians! Their radio announcements and official press reports show incoherence and contradictions, which betoken at any rate a 'defensive' frame of mind. Hitler's latest speech is an excellent example. One radio commentator says:—"We are now on the defensive and the other side must attempt to break through, for he will starve to death in LENINGRAD". The next fellow says that "to talk of the Germans being on the defensive is nonsense" This is confusion all right, but it is confusion worse confounded when it is compared with Hitler's boast in a Norwegian broadcast on *July* 21st: "It is now only a matter of days before LENINGRAD will be captured or evacuated."!

Here's another example. In March last Goebbels said to a Spanish newspaper man: "I affirm again that before the year is over GERMANY will finish the war." Forgetful of this, Hitler announced in the Beer-Cellar that "the struggle may continue any length of time." Goebbels, of course, had already swallowed his own words. On Nov. 7th, in his paper *Das Reich*, he declared that "the question how the war is going to end is to-day more important than the question when."!

Sometimes, of course, the Fuehrer allows circumstances themselves, rather than his own admissions, to ram his lies down his own throat. His

statement that "eight to ten million Soviet soldiers have been put out of action ......no army could possibly recover from such losses" looks a bit weak, when the world sees not only the continued existence, but the offensive capacity of the Russian armies every day in the press.

There was one point in the speech that should interest INDIA particularly. "The whole of EUROPE (??) is fighting against this Mongol State" is not merely a childish "whopper", but, from the barbaric contempt shown by the choice of phrase, a reminder to INDIA of the racial principle so firmly rooted in German designs. The value of softer voices that coo through the East in German official propaganda, can be the better weighed now!

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END OF AN ERA. The Amendments to the Neutrality Act just approved by the American Congress mark the end of an era. When the Germans sank the *Lusitania* in the last war, AMERICA went to war with them to uphold the principle of the Freedom of the Seas. After the end of that war, Isolationism went to work to forget the principle, and in 1935 succeeded in making the country abandon it by the passing of the Neutrality Act. On May 28, President Roosevelt went to open war with the Isolationists. In his great speech declaring a state of unlimited national emergency, he put the Freedom of the Seas once more into the platform of the country's policy, and with last week's narrow voting victory, established that policy and vanquished isolationism 'for the duration'!

In 1917 America went to war for the Freedom of the Seas. Legislation tried to see to it that she could never do so again. Now, thanks to the farsightedness, tenacity and courage of himself and his administration, Roosevelt can send AMERICA to war again for the Freedom of the Seas, and will do it, when it is necessary.

NAZI EXHIBITION OF ANGER OVER ROOSEVELT'S SPEECH.

ATTEMPT TO FORCE AMERICA TO DECLARE WAR?

by

Edward Montgomery.

(Part of Hitler's Beer-Cellar speech is discussed in this week's "Side Lights." Here is an interesting commentary on another aspect of it.—Ed.)

What may in the long run prove to have been the most important single item of news affecting the United States last week (week ended November 3)

came not from the United States, but from Hitler's own personal headquarters on the Eastern Front, in the form of a communiqué.

The fact that the communiqué was put out from Hitler's headquarters gave it by implication the weight of the Fuehrer's own words. It was in reply to President Roosevelt's forthright speech on the occasion of America's Navy Day, alleging that the attacks by German submarines on American naval and merchant vessels constituted an attack on the United States.

"The account given by the President in his speech," said Hitler's communiqué, "that American destroyers had been attacked by German naval forces, and thereby Germany had attacked America, does not correspond with the facts, and has been refuted by an official statement of the American naval authorities themselves. On the contrary, both American destroyers attacked German submarines and, thereby, America attacked Germany, which is also confirmed by the American naval authorities".

This communiqué came at the end of a week during which the German press and radio had indulged in an astonishing amount of vituperation in comment on the President's broadcast. Astonishing, because hitherto the President's speeches have received little space or attention from German propagandists. Indeed, it seemed that a direction had gone forth to turn a blind eye in Germany to all the President's forward moves in policy.

The President's Navy Day broadcast did not, in fact, contain any suggestion of any further forward moves by the Administration in its declared policy of stopping Hitler, but rather underlined Americans' present position in face of the German attempt to secure world domination.

It seemed odd, therefore, that this particular speech should have aroused the Germans to such propagandist fury. Odd, that is, unless it marks the beginning of a considered attempt by Hitler to force an American declaration of war upon Germany. Hitler and the politically astute Generals of the German High Command may have reviewed the whole world position, and having regard particularly to the situation in the Far East and on the Russian front, may have decided that United States would be of more use to Germaay in war than out of it. If the United States is actively in the war, they may argue, much of the flow of supplies and materials now being sent by the United States to maintain British and Russian resistance will have to be diverted to America's own armed forces. These armed forces themselves, the Germans may think, are as yet not ready to make war. If America could be forced into a war on two fronts simultaneously with Germany in the Atlantic and Japan in the Pacific, the widespread dispersal of American naval, military and air forces imposed by the operations upon two such vast fronts would render the United States impotent to help Britain or Russia in any military sense.

It is obvious that if this is the present political objective of the German High Command, Japan must be inveigled into war with the United States at the same time as Germany. One way this might be done is so to arouse public opinion in the United States that Congress would be forced into a declaration of war against Germany by popular demand. Germany could then appeal to Japan to declare war on her also, under the terms of the Tripartite Pact.

"BOMBER COMMAND"

[*Third Instalment of the Air Ministry's recent best-seller*].

EVIDENCE OF EFFECT OF R. A. F. RAIDS.

HOW IMPORTANT GERMAN CITIES HAVE BEEN AFFECTED.

DAMAGE DONE IN ATTACKS ON BERLIN.

Every now and again, in the long, continuous process of checking reports, details come to light which, like pieces of a jig-saw puzzle fallen suddenly into place reveal something unexpected, unsuspected.

In March this year, for instance, a report was received stating that early that month a night express from the Hague to Berlin received a direct hit when in motion and that heavy casualties had been caused. It so happened that on one night, and on one night only in that month, a solitary Hampden, groping its way back in thick weather from Berlin where it had failed to find its primary target, dropped its bombs on a railway junction. The time and place of this attack were, of course, given in its report. The stations through which the express passed that night were ascertained, and it was found to have been due at a particular junction at the precise moment at which the Hampden had dropped its bombs.

Again, it was learnt that on the morning of March 17 the *Bremen* had been on fire for some time and was practically burnt out. Four nights before a Hampden reported that it had dropped bombs, one of them a heavy one, on Bremenhaven Docks, but it had been unable to observe the results. Here the evidence that it had hit the *Bremen* is not conclusive, but it is certainly very strong.

The destruction wrought on Germany's chief cities by bombers has been impressive. In Kiel in July, 1940, works were put out of operation. This damage was increased during the next months, particularly in one night,

September 10–11. Much of this was probably repaired during the winter, but serious damage occurred in March, 1941, when in one week a large area in the Kohlen and Holstein streets was completely gutted. Emden was the first place in Germany to receive our new bombs. On the night of March 31—April 1, 1941, two were dropped. One fell in the east part of the town near the Post Office and Telephone Exchange, causing severe dislocation of these services. The other fell in the old part of the town causing impressive damage.

In Bremen by February 18, 1941, the damage caused by raids during that month was so great that special squads of fire-fighters had to be brought from Hamburg to cope with the situation. In these raids, it is estimated, the casualties amounted to more than 1,000 killed and many thousands injured.

In Hamburg also there was much devastation. The bombing of this important port began in May 1940, and has continued intermittently ever since. By the end of June, 1941, about half the petrol stocks had been destroyed, at least one power house put out of action, a large liner sunk and many docks in the port rendered temporarily unusable.

By October 18 a number of shipyards were cancelling all orders for large ships, 10,000 tons of wheat had been destroyed in three silos, and the German press were advertising for workmen to be employed on the "rebuilding of Hamburg."

By that date too a number of submarines under construction had been damaged, probably beyond repair. By the end of November many orders from neutral firms were being cancelled, in view of production and transport delays. The raids on November 15 and 16 were among the heaviest made on the city up to that time. Several factories were destroyed, together with much war material, a railway station was hit and the Blohm and Voss shipyards were badly damaged, Casualties were severe.

Between January 1 and 7, 1941, a number of direct hits by very heavy bombs were scored on the Blohm and Voss ship-building works, and by the end of the month a chemical factory and a margarine factory had been wrecked.

But by May damage to the city, apart from the harbour area, was severe. The law courts, stock exchange, head offices of the Hamburg-American Line and business centre of the city all bore marks of the activities of the Bomber Command. It must not be forgotten that the city and port of Hamburg is one of the largest in Europe.

So the tale of destruction goes on to embrace Cologne, Dusseldorf, Munster and Aachen.

Finally there is Berlin. In one of the earliest raids hits were scored on Neukoelln and Alexander Platz in the centre of Berlin, and these were followed by hits on the Lehrter and Anhalter stations and Pariser Platz at the end of Unter den Linden. A number of factories were also damaged, and one near Lehrter Station burnt out.

The Brandenburger Tor, that monument to the success of past aggression, was also hit. By the end of October, 1940, the General Post Office had been gutted, and the railway services between Berlin and Cologne severely disorganised. Throughout the month of November damage continued to be caused to railway stations, notably Lehrter, and the approaches to Stettiner, and considerable damage had been done to Unter den Linden and a number of other famous streets. Road and tram traffic had been temporarily disorganised.

By the middle of the month the Berlin Underground Railway had been damaged near Savigny Platz, and a munitions factory closed down and evacuated in Posen. The Siemens works were hit in several raids. The heavy damage caused to these works, which employ thousands of workers, was one of the main topics in Berlin at that time.

Before Christmas heavy damage was caused to the Weissensee district, and also to power stations. In the last week of the year an arsenal in the Friedrichs Platz was blown up, and an old royal palace hit. Bombs had also fallen along that superb example of Prussian bad taste, the Seiges Allee. The Law Courts had been hit and the windows of the Home Office broken.

In January, 1941, barracks in Charlottenburg, a suburb of Berlin, were completely destroyed. Iu February a big department store in the Alexander Platz was burnt out, and the Siemens factory once more damaged. A raid on the night of March 12–13 was particularly effective, a goods station suffering severely, S. S. barracks at Grasslichtenfeld being destroyed, and a chemical factory damaged beyond repair.

In April the Unter den Linden district in the heart of Berlin was severely damaged. It is known that the Opera House, War Museum (which contained the death mask of Hindenburg) and old royal stables were hit. The people living near the Witzleben Station will remember the first of our new bombs to be dropped in Berlin. In an area about 500 yards in diameter, it blew out windows and removed tiles from all the roofs. Much more damage has been done to Germany than that which has been briefly outlined. Much more is to be done before the war is over.

RELIGION UNDER THE SWASTIKA.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, in his Navy Day speech, outlined the detailed plan which the Nazis intend to impose on a dominated world—if Hitler wins.

"*It is a plan,*" said the President, "*to abolish all existing religions—Protestant, Catholic, Mahommedan, Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish alike.* The property of all churches will be seized by the Reich. The Cross and all other symbols of religion are to be forbidden. The clergy are to be for ever silenced under penalty of the concentration camps, where even now so many fearless men are being tortured, because they placed God above Hitler........"

"*These grim truths,*" said the thrice-chosen head of 130 million people, "*will, of course, be hotly denied to-morrow in the controlled Press and Radio of the Axis Powers.*"

They were. The Nazi Radio, in a broadcast to India and the Near East, labelled the plan "bogus", and without attempting to deny that they had practised religious persecution throughout the length and breadth of Europe, made the fantastic allegation that the President's words were just a trick to inveigle Chinese troops into fighting the Germans on the Russian Front.

But no broadcast outburst of feigned innocence can undo what has been done. All the talk can unsay no word that has been said. On April 2, 1937 the Nazi organ *Reichpost* informed its readers :—

"*Churches of artistic and historic value will, of course, be preserved, but only after removing all Christian symbols. Many second and third rate churches will however be demolished.*"

This is what German youths heard over their radio on January 12, 1940 :

"*This is the Creed of our time. We believe in Hitler. And what of the old Creed? The Scriptures are dead. We need no fairy tales to-day. Believing, we trust our destiny to our Fuehrer.*"

And Herr Hauptmann informs us that :—

"*The teaching of mercy and love of one's neighbour is foreign to the German race, and the Sermon on the Mount is, according to Nordic sentiment, an ethic for cowards and idiots.*"

JAPAN'S ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES.

Though Japan may vaunt the charms of her "co-prosperity" scheme, it is somewhat offset by the extreme poverty of her own economy, according to facts available in official quarters in London.

Japan is already suffering from food shortage, and this threatens to become severer. Rice supplies were bad last year, and they will be worse this year, owing to a very bad harvest. Last year the deficit was to some extent offset by imports from Burma, but this source is now cut off. Government have adopted frantic measues to induce farmers to increase production, but the subsidies provided have been money lost.

The scarcity of food is aggravated by the poor crops of wheat and barley, ten and a half per cent less than last year ; and **the granaries of the Dominions and the U. S. A. are now closed to the Japanese consumer.** The hitherto prosperous food canning industry cannot continue, and **food must be wasted, as there are not sufficient quantities of tin-plate and rubber for package.**

A distinct worsening in labour conditions was inevitable. Owing to the shortage of labour in the war industries, and the shortage of man-power due to deaths in China, Government is being urged to cancel all reforms relative to hours of work and employment of women. The worker's freedom to seek the highest paid work has been taken away. **Japan's great cotton and rayon industries are doomed,** as raw materials can no longer come from the United States and India, and the great export field of the British Commonwealth and America has been taken away. The shortage of building materials and consequent jerry-buliding is causing the authorities great alarm, especially as the danger of war with Brita n and the United States looms up. The buildings of Tokyo offer no protection against air raids.

With these lamentable conditions at home, Japan is hastily pushing forward her new industrial autarchy in Manchuria and Indo-China. Autarchic regulations are being applied in the country wrested from China, which is being organised solely for the provision of the conqueror.

Trade with Indo China is regulated in the best interests of Japan's leading business families, Mitsui and Mitsubishi. German principles of trade agreements, to the sole advantage of the dominant Power, are being applied. All surplus rice is to go to Japan. Indo-China has been forced to import 40 classes of goods from Japan free of import duty, only ten classes being granted to Indo-China in return. But again, following the German lead, Japan is grabbing goods and finding excuses for sending nothing to pay for them. Transport difficulties are resulting in one-way traffic of goods to Japan from Indo-China.

The Asiatic " New Order " resembles the slave state of Germany's " New Europe."

AMERICAN NEWSLETTER

by

Arthur Cantwell.

New York, October 20.

"Through these years of war we Americans have never been neutral in thought. We have never been indifferent to the fate of Hitler's victims. And increasingly we have become aware of the peril to ourselves, to our democratic traditions and institutions, to our country, and to our Hemisphere. We have known what victory for the aggressors would mean to us. Therefore the American people through the Congress have taken important and costly steps to give great aid to those nations actively fighting against Nazi Fascist domination."

These words were the preliminary to a Presidential message to Congress which Washington hailed as being worded more strongly than any in history. In clear, incisive, grimly logical phrases, Roosevelt called for the obliteration from the Statute Book of that clause of the Neutrality Act which forbids the arming of American merchantmen.

If the public reaction was wholly favourable, the only question bruited was why the President had not at once called for the wholesale repeal of the Neutrality Act instead of the cancellation of only one clause. All shades of opinion agree that complete repeal would have been feasible had the President insisted on it.

However, that the President was wise in momentarily limiting his demands is beyond doubt, for thus he skated round the difficulties of a prolonged and bitter debate, whereas, on the issue as stated at present, within the month Congress will have consigned the Sixth Clause to the chasm of the past.

And once Congress has spoken, its decision will be rapidly enacted. Secretary of the Navy Knox told the Press on the 15th that he had plenty of gun crews in readiness to handle the arming of U. S. A. ships as fast as they could be brought into port. As each comes in from the seas armament will be mounted on its decks and trained gunners ordered to their stations.

Thus under arms the cargoes of Lease-and-Lend supplies will cross the ocean to Britain and to the theatres of war where the Allies are operating—cargoes of a tonnage constantly increasing. Already the tonnage of Lease-and-Lend material has increased colossally. New figures given by the Presiden show that during September Lease-and-Lend actual transfers totalled three times the monthly average for the previous six months.

Of exports going to Britain at present, a certain proportion continue to be trade material for which hard cash is paid, but the Lease-and-Lend shipments are making up a larger and larger percentage.

It is ethically a matter for the highest satisfaction to realise in what direction America has turned its formerly notorious capacity for salesmanship. A nation that taught the world how to sell, irrespective of the value or desirability of the things sold, has now found the necessary moral focus for its talent, and has got down to the job of selling itself arms to lend to democracy in order to save democracy.

Priorities Director Nelson undoubtedly had this consideration in mind when he addressed the New York Sale Executive Club the other night. He told them: "Let us make our military demands twice as great as they are now...... Let us shoot the works. **Hitler can be beaten.** We have said he is going to be beaten, **and he can be beaten over a long pull or over a short pull.** We do not want to go on living under priority controls for another generation. The way to fight it is to go all out now and finish it quickly."

Production chiefs are of the same opinion. Leon Henderson has reported that America is at present producing one-third as much again as she ever did, and yet is still in possession of rich potential crying aloud the invitation to dip deeper for defence purposes.

"Defence production", according to him, "will be running to two billions monthly next July, and it will move up and up to whatever level it takes to break the back of Hitler." **The record-breaking rate of production may be gauged from the fact that there is one small-arms production factory at Salt Lake City which is already producing a greater volume of ammunition monthly than the total production in the United States during the World War.**

Or to take another index, General Wesson, the United States Ordnance chief just back from conferences with Churchill and Lord Beaverbrook promised that full production of cruiser tanks would be reached by January 1, and double that production in May next. "These figures are conservative", said General Wessan, who is known in America as the "bottle-neck buster". One of his revelations showed that all scheduled output was well exceeded last month.

The solidarity of the Americas was once more emphasised by the joint signatures subscribed to the trade pact between the U. S. A. and Argentina. These many commercial exchanges and mutual guarantees between the States of the Western Hemisphere aim at creating a solid trade and finance organization that will be proof against the wiles, or what Rockfeller Junior this week called "the seduction", of Hitler.

If one of our Latin American sisters felt herself unguaranteed economically against the unstabilizing tendencies of the war, she might listen to the Nazi blandishments, and thus let herself and the whole hemisphere in for the horrors of Nazi infiltration. **The U. S. A. herself offers the various countries what is**

almost a form of insurance against the financial future, and she encourages them collectively to insure one another.

Inevitably the currents of public interest set up by reports and rumours from Japan have both shocked the nation and stimulated it to a psychological "state of emergency". Senator Gillette of Iowa has put forward a resolution to investigate the activities of Japanese agents in the States; the Press has been more than a little curious about the reported establishment of a Japanese air line in the Pacific.

Mr. Charles Faddis of the Democratic Party, speaking in Congress, demanded that America "serve notice on the Japanese that if they move in any direction we destroy their navy". White House is saying nothing, but the way the wind blows may be detected from the fact that the Government of Panama is about to resume discussions concerning the defence of the Panama Canal, and that the U. S. A. and Canada are taking joint action to provide all defence against any possible attack on Alaska or the Pacific Coast.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

A Commentary on Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East.

For the period Nov. 1—8, 1941.

AUSTRALIA ASPERSED AGAIN.

"General Blamey is going to Australia to convince the Australian Cabinet that Britain requires more Anzac soldiers".—(*German News in English Nov. 4*).

Mr. Curtin informed the House of Representatives on Nov. 5 that Gen. Blamey's visit to Australia was to discuss the Pacific defence with Mr. Duff Cooper and others, and Australions need have no anxiety as to any slackening of effort in the Middle East Sector. Said Sir Earle Page the Australian representative in London on Oct. 30:—

"This careful refusal of the Australian Government to help Britain is of great political significance".—(*German News in English, Nov. 7*).

"*Although the Australian Government's personnel has recently changed, Australia's war effort has remained constant at 100 per cent*". **Again on Nov. 3 he declared:** "*Australia's preparedness for the war is now greater than ever*".

Over 450,000 men were serving in the armed forces. Over 60,000 were in the A. A. F. Since the war, production of munition had increased by at least twenty times.

MISCELLANEOUS MENDACITIES.

" The British blockade of Marseilles is intended to starve out the men, women and children of France. There can be no other purpose served by it".—(*German News in English*, *Nov. 5*).

Looter no. 1 of unarmed and innocent victims, Berlin wishes to pose as the humane sympathiser with a country which she is ceaselessly striving to cow with hangmen and Quislings. The enemy "purchasing" commission in Marseilles requisitions 80 per cent of the incoming cargoes, not for use in France but for bomb-gutted Germany. Why were 3 of the Vichy ships recently captured by the British Navy in such a desperate hurry to scuttle themselves ? American and British policy is to allow necessities through, which are genuinely meant for France's internal consumption. The answer is simple: Those ships were engaged in a furtive and illicit attempt either to evade American control which insists on the distribution of food in French Africa under *AMERICAN* supervision, or to run the British blockade, which justifiably enough insists that Vichy ships must not be used to carry goods for enemy use.

" All the air raids of the R. A. F. over the Channel coast proved ineffective".—(*German News in Hindustani*, *Nov. 5*).

To refer only to one tiny aspect of the R. A. F. activity over the Channel: Between 1500 to 2000 R. A. F. sorties have kept the *Scharnhost*, *Gneisenau*, and *Prinz Eugen* still maimed and limp in the docks of *Brest* and unable to escape even to a remoter oblivion. The R. A. F. fighters now carry bombs as well as machine guns and cannon in their offensive sweeps over the Channel and elsewhere.

• "Roosevelt intoxicates himself on words which are not followed by deeds".—(*German News in English, Nov. 7*).

On Nov. 6 President Roosevelt declared in a broadcast to the I. L. O.:– *"The epic stand of Britain, China and Russia will receive the full support of the free peoples of America".* **A few hours later he authorised a thousand million dollar, interest free loan to Russia.**

ARABESQUE OF LIES.

"Britain is already taking steps to prepare the establishment of a Jewish State comprising Transjordan-Palestine and Syria".(—*German News in Arabic and Persian, Nov. 3*).

As far back as May 1939 H. M.'s Government declared *"unequivocally that it is not a part of their policy that Palestine should become a Jewish State".*

More recently the voice of sound statesmanship and ripe wisdom, qualities which Berlin cannot now assess owing to a local dearth of it, made itself heard from S. Africa and Transjordan. If there had been a vestige of truth in the German assertion, Emir Abdulla would not have said, as he did on *Oct. 30: "For the time being the efforts of all Arabs should be concentrated on helping Britain to win the war." On Nov. 2,* **Field Marshal Smuts, pleading for a larger vision on world issues, hoped that the Jewish problem might be resolved "as part of the prospect of a large Arab confederation in the Middle East".**

A PROPHET AT WORK.

"In half a year I will talk to you again and you will see that my ***prophecy of victory*** will have been *correct*".

(*Goebbels to Scandinavian correspondents in Berlin, November 1940.*)

"I affirm again that ***before the year is over*** Germany will ***finish*** the war".

(*Goebbels to Spanish correspondents in Berlin, March 1941.*)

"The question ***how*** the war is going ***to end*** is more important than the question ***when?***"

(*Goebbels in an article in 'Das Reich', November 1941.*)

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1941—

LECTURE LXXI—(*Batch 3*).

November...	22, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
	23, Sunday ...	Karambakkudi ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kottaikkadu ...	6.30 p. m.
	24, Monday ...	Konnayur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Mela Vegupatti ...	6.30 p. m.
	25, Tuesday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Tiruvappur ...	5.30 p. m.
		Kulipirai ...	6.00 p. m.
		Sundaram ...	6.30 p. m.
	26, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		Ramachandrapuram ...	6.00 p. m.
		Rayavaram ...	6.30 p. m.
	27, Thursday ...	Annavasal ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilakkurichi ...	6.30 p. m.
	28, Friday ...	Valramanikkam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Yembal ...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE LXXII—(*Batch 4*).

	29, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
	30, Sunday ...	Muslim Association, Pudukkottai.	5.00 p. m.
		Nirpalani ...	6.00 p. m.
		Avoor ...	6.30 p. m.
December ...	1, Monday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Nartamalai ...	6.00 p. m.
		Uppiliakkudi ...	6.30 p. m.
	2, Tuesday ...	Karaiyur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Keelathaniam ...	6.30 p. m.
	3, Wednesday.	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
		Vadavalam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Malayur ...	6.30 p. m.
	4, Thursday ...	Andakkulam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Killanur ...	6.30 p. m.
	5, Friday ...	Puduppatti (Ponnamaravathi).	6.00 p. m.
		Vendampatti ...	6.30 p. m.

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